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**ABSTRACT:**

**A console for a computer workstation comprises a work surface (1) and a pedestal (2) supporting the work surface. The pedestal comprises a**

**framework**

**of extrusions (3) joined at their ends by corner pieces and closed by fascia panels (5). Each extrusion (3) has undercut recesses for receiving bolts or threaded strips in order to secure ancillaries to the extrusions, particularly for supporting computer electronics within the pedestal. Thus the pedestal and**

**thus the console can be made to any dimension simply by cutting the extrusions**

**to the desired length and cutting the fascia panels accordingly. <IMAGE>**

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GB 1427279 GB 1168887 GB 1131709

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(54) Workstation

(57) A console for a computer workstation comprises a work surface (1) and a pedestal (2) supporting the work surface. The pedestal comprises a framework of extrusions (3) joined at their ends by corner pieces and closed by fascia panels (5). Each extrusion (3) has undercut recesses for receiving bolts or threaded strips in order to secure ancillaries to the extrusions, particularly for supporting computer electronics within the pedestal. Thus the pedestal and thus the console can be made to any dimension simply by cutting the extrusions to the desired length and cutting the fascia panels accordingly.

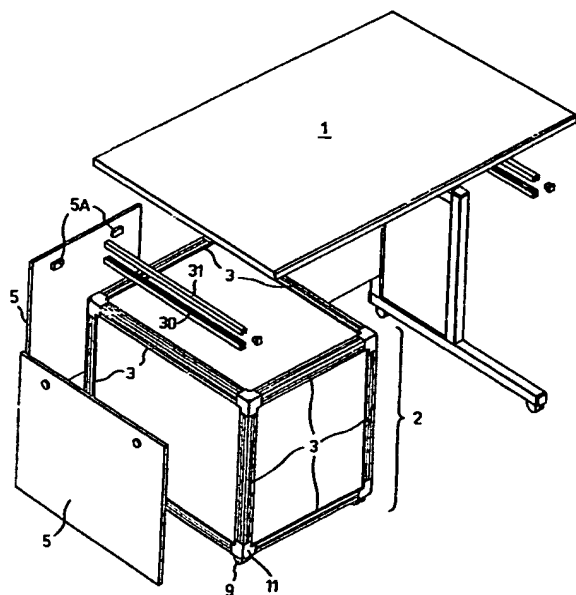


Fig.1.

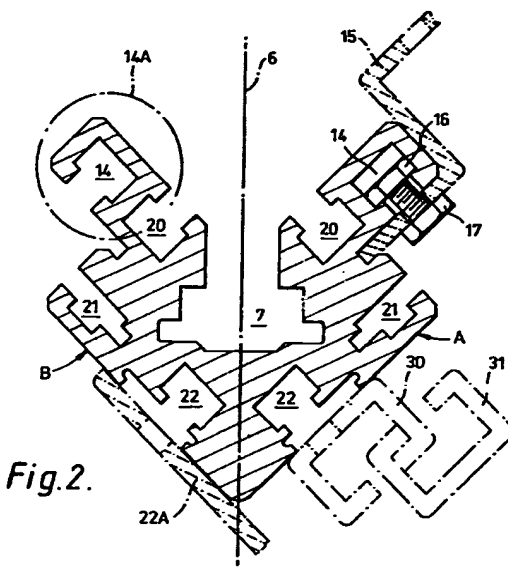
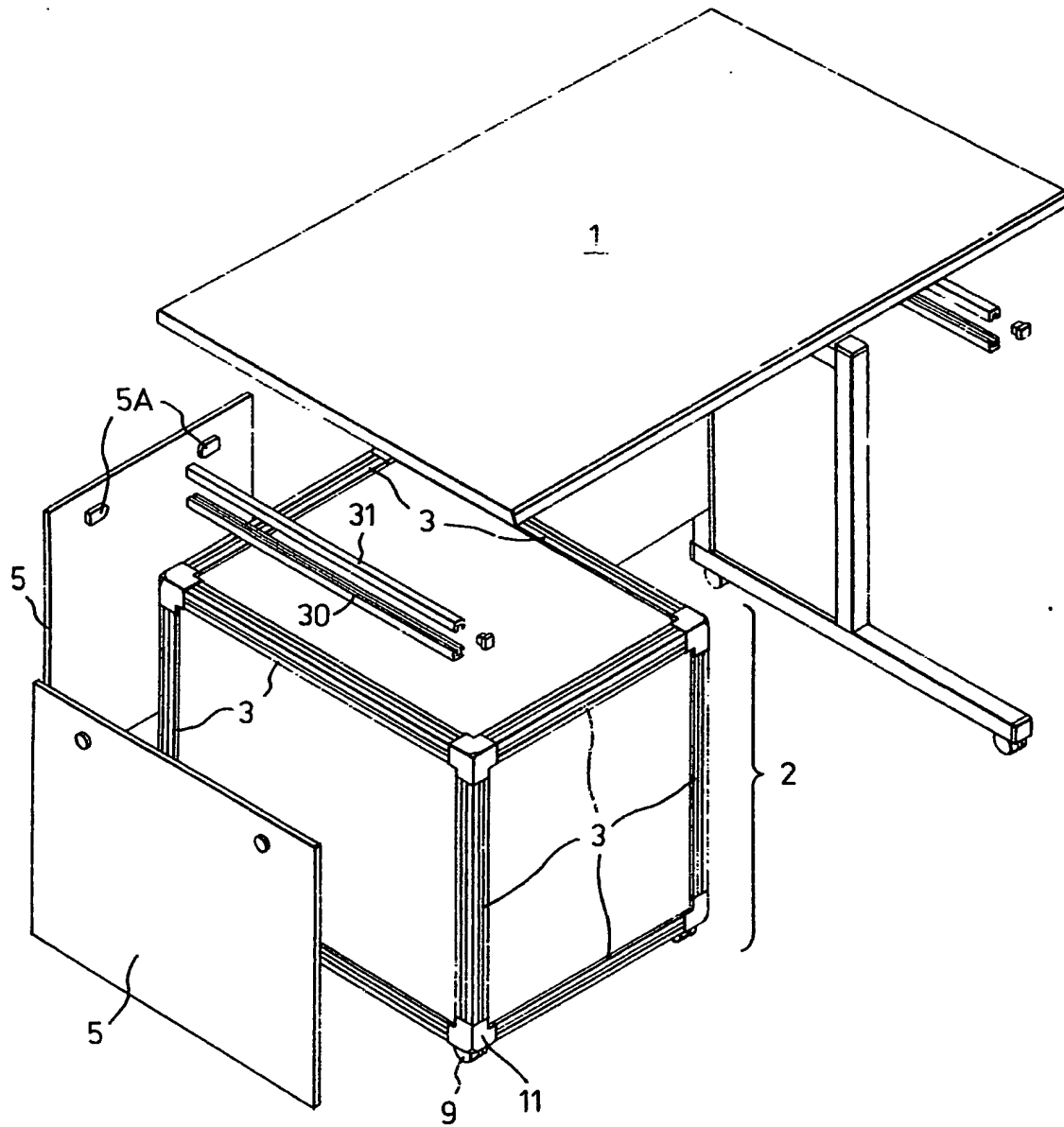


Fig.2.

*Fig.1.*

2/3

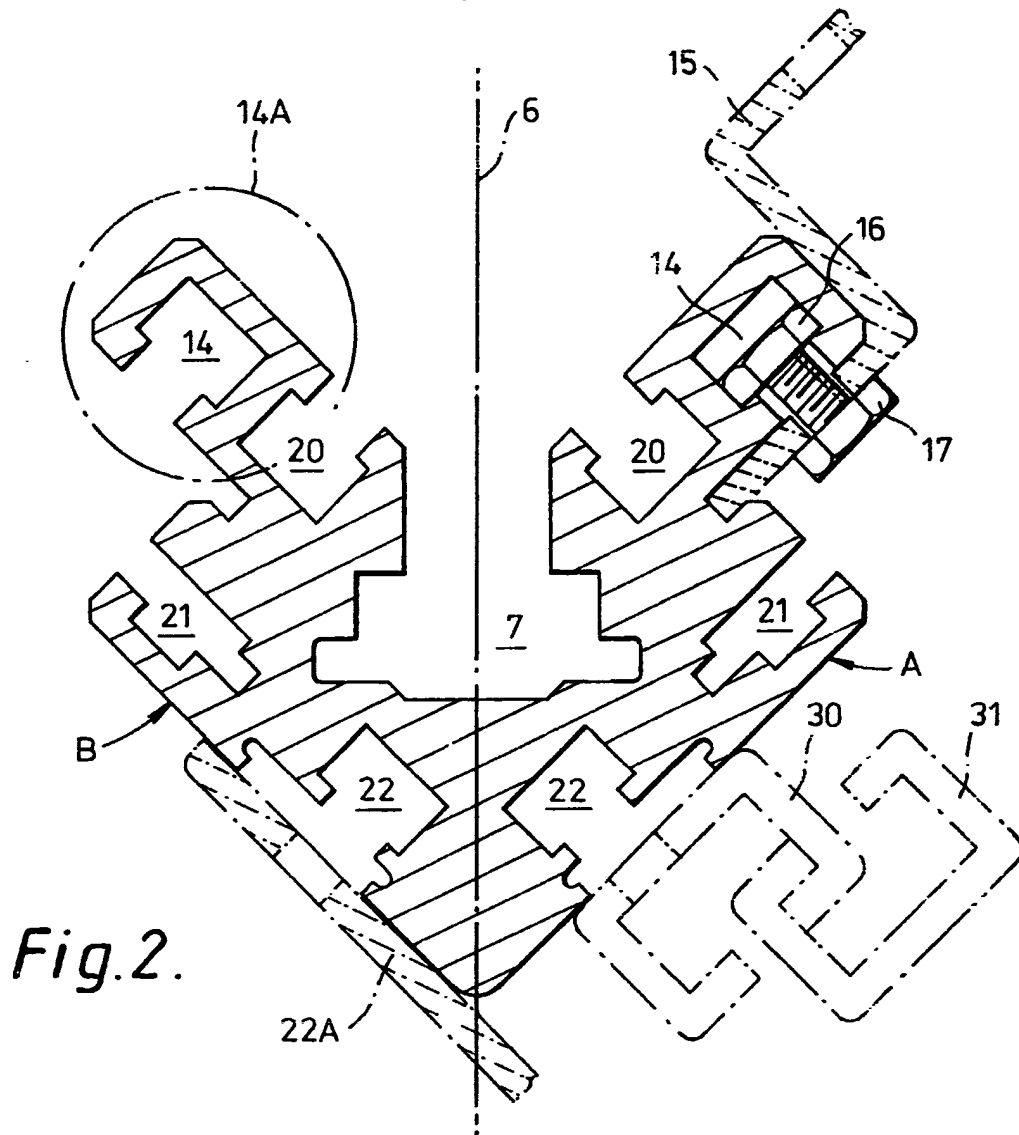


Fig. 2.

Fig. 2A.

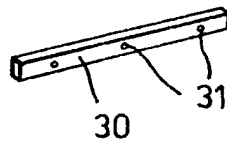


Fig. 3A.

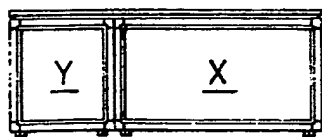


Fig. 3B.

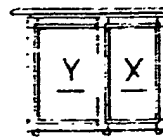


Fig. 4A.

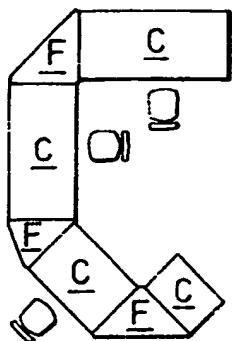


Fig. 4B.

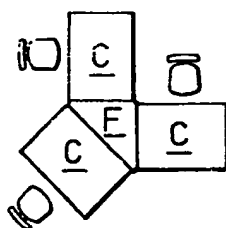


Fig. 4C.

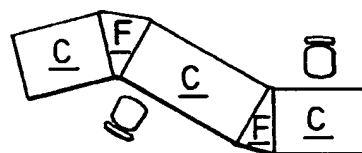
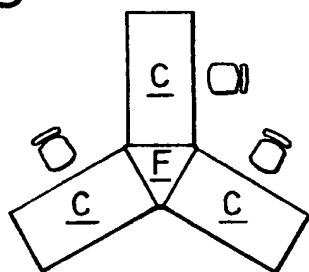


Fig. 4D.

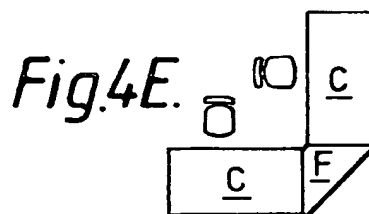


Fig. 1A.

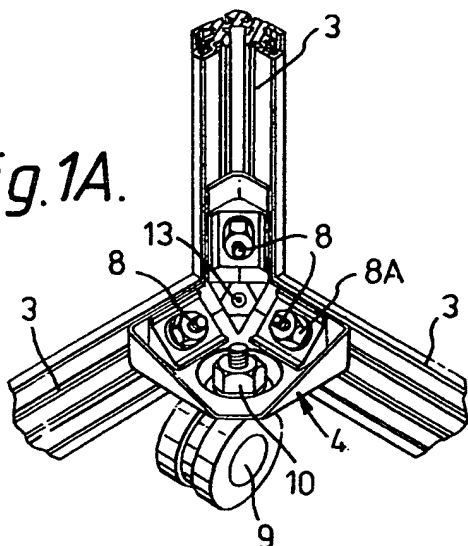
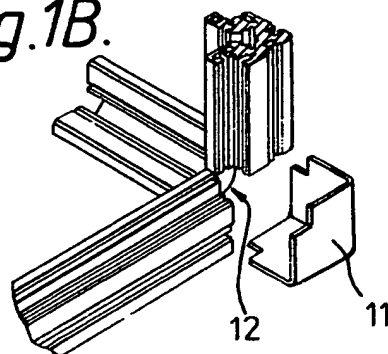


Fig. 1B.



## SPECIFICATION

### Workstation

5 This invention relates to a console for a computer workstation.

According to the present invention there is provided a work console comprising a work surface and at least one pedestal supporting the work surface, the pedestal comprising a framework of extrusions extending along and defining edges of the pedestal and brackets which join the three ends of three extrusions by screw-threaded fasteners.

According to another aspect of the present invention there is provided an extrusion for a console as described in the preceding paragraph, the extrusion having a generally "L"- or "V"-shaped cross section providing external major surfaces at 90°, each major surface having an undercut recess therein, at least one further undercut recess located in each limb of the "V" or "L" and another undercut recess defined by the inner cavity of the "V" or "L" for supporting a bolt which will protect away from the major surfaces and at 45° to each for securing the extrusion to other similar extrusions by a bracket.

In order that the invention can be clearly understood reference will now be made to the accompanying drawings in which:—

Fig. 1 is a perspective exploded view of a console according to an embodiment of the invention, Figs. 1A and 1B showing details of Fig. 1;

Fig. 2 is a cross sectional view of the extrusion for the console of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 shows an alternative console constructed from the extrusion and other parts of Fig. 1 but with a half depth pedestal in addition to the full depth pedestal, and

Figs. 4A to 4E show various layouts of consoles according to other embodiments of the present invention.

Referring to Fig. 1 there is shown a computer console which serves three functions. It houses the computer electronics in a removable manner in the pedestal; it provides a work centre for a computer operator; and importantly it can be built to any dimension and can be dismantled and rebuilt to provide a different sized housing for new or additional computer electronics with a minimum of new structural and fascia parts. This is a big advantage for a computer user because the console structure is almost certainly going to outlive the electronics which will probably be updated in two to five years time and the cost of the console to begin with is a not insignificant part of the total initial outlay.

Thus one of the main features of the present invention is the provision of a computer console which can be made to any dimension and can be updated at some future point in time with the minimum additional expense.

The console comprises a work surface 1, a full depth pedestal framework 2 of metal extrusions 3, preferably aluminium, rigid corner brackets 4 (Fig. 1A) and fascia panels such as 5.

The cross section of the extrusions 3 is shown in Fig. 2. The extrusion serves as the main structural support

element and provides for mounting ancillaries. It is generally symmetrical about the plane 6. It has a generally "L"- or "V"-shaped cross section having major outer surfaces A and B at 90° to each other. A central undercut recess 7 captures the head of a main securing bolt 8 (Fig. 1A) for securing the end of the extrusion to the bracket 4 which is made of pressed and welded steel. This bolt projects away from the major surfaces A and B and at 45° to each. The bracket 4 has three holes to accept the three bolts 8 for securing together the ends of the three extrusions 3 by means of nuts such as 8A. A caster 9 or other foot is secured through a fourth hole by a nut 10. A modified bracket similar to the bracket 4 but without the fourth hole is also provided (not shown) for securing together the ends of the extrusions 3 wherever a supporting foot or caster is not required, e.g. adjacent the upper surface of the pedestal and this modified bracket or the bracket 4 as shown can also be used to secure two extrusions 3 to an intermediate point on a third extrusion 3.

A cap 11 is fitted into the corner recess 12 to provide a smooth and attractive finish to the corner joint. The cap is held by a screw 13 extending through a fifth hole in the bracket 4. Where two extrusions 3 are secured to an intermediate point on a third extrusion, then of course the corner finishing cap would not be required.

Undercut recesses 14 take a standard M5 bolt head 16 for securing a Z-shaped cross section mounting strip 15 for mounting 19 inch equipment practice racks (15 is shown in broken line in Fig. 2) by means of a nut 17. Thus each limb of the extrusion has an extremity 14A inboard of the major surface such as B and providing the undercut recess 14 located beyond the edge of major surface B remote from the edge common to both surfaces A and B.

Undercut recesses 20 accept an M5 bolt head for securing ancillaries such as drawer runners, chassis slides, cable trunking or internal power distribution sockets.

Recesses 21 accept one edge of a fixed fascia panel which is trapped between opposed extrusions, and lies in a plane just inboard of the pertaining major surface A or B. Alternatively removable fascia panels 5 (Fig. 1) can be provided in which quick release latches 5A (Fig. 1) hold behind the part of the extrusion defining the recess 14 such that on rotation the latch moves away to release the panel.

Recesses 22 are used to trap an M5 bolt head for joining together two abutting frameworks, such as shown by way of example in Fig. 3, where framework X abuts framework Y and the abutting extrusions are secured together by straps 22A extending across from the recess 22 in one extrusion in the common plane to the recess 22 in the abutting extrusion. In Fig. 3 the console is similar to the one shown in Fig. 1 except that pedestal X has been provided in place of the modesty panel and all-welded end leg. The pedestal X contains additional electronic equipment supported by Z-shaped supporting brackets 15 (Fig. 2), and such brackets would be used in pedestal Y also. Alternatively the electronics equipment can be supported in drawers (not shown) or chassis mounted on slides, and secured by bolts to recesses 20 (Fig. 2).

The work surfaces such as the one shown in Fig. 1 or

Fig. 3, are secured to the upper extrusions via recesses 22 using channel shaped extrusions 30 and 31 shown in broken line in Fig. 2, one channel member 30 being secured to the bolt or threaded strip in the recess 22 and the other channel 31 being secured to the underside of the work surface. Then the work surface is slid onto the top of the or each pedestal so that the channels 30 and 31 interlock with one another. These channels are indicated schematically in Fig. 1 before being secured.

The channel pieces 30 and 31 also cause the work surface to be raised slightly from the top major surfaces A or B of the extrusions 3 (Fig. 1) enabling cable entry from the work surface to the pedestal between the work surface and the extrusions.

In place of the M5 bolts it is possible and in some cases preferable to provide a strip 30 (Fig. 2A) with threaded holes such as 31, and to slide this strip down the undercut recess in place of the bolts, and then screw the bolts into the strip located in the recess to secure the various ancillaries to the extrusions.

Referring to Fig. 4 there are shown various console layouts 4A to 4E, each console C incorporating a pedestal such as the one indicated in Fig. 1 or Fig. 3, as appropriate. Intermediate triangular filler pieces F are joined to the work surfaces of the various consoles C in order to achieve the various layouts.

#### CLAIMS

1. A work console comprising a work surface and at least one pedestal supporting the work surface, the pedestal comprising a framework of extrusions extending along and defining edges of the pedestal and brackets which join the three ends of three extrusions by screw-threaded fasteners.

2. A console as claimed in claim 1, wherein the brackets on the bottom of the pedestal each have a foot such as a caster secured thereto.

3. A console as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the extrusions have the same cross sectional configuration.

4. A console as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein an extrusion is symmetrical about a centre plane and of generally "L"- or "V"-shaped cross section having major outer surfaces at 45° to the central plane, and an undercut recess in each major surface whereby two extrusions abutting along major surfaces can be secured together by strapping fixed to bolts held in the undercut recesses in the other major surfaces.

5. A console as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein an extrusion is of generally "L"- or "V"-shaped cross section having major outer surfaces at 90°, the ends of each limb of the "L" or "V" having a recess to receive a fixed fascia panel lying in a plane just inboard of the pertaining major surface.

6. A console as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein an extrusion is of generally "L"- or "V"-shaped cross section providing external major surfaces at 90°, the inner cavity of the "L" or "V" defining an undercut recess to secure the head of a bolt which will project away from the major surfaces at 45° to each for securing the extrusion to the bracket.

7. A console as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein an extrusion is of generally "L"- or "V"-shaped cross section providing external major sur-

faces at 90°, each limb of the "V" or "L" having an extremity inboard of the major surface and providing an undercut recess located beyond the edge of that surface remote from the edge common to both surfaces, said recess able to carry a bolt head or screw-threaded strip.

8. A console as claimed in claim 7, wherein each limb provides at least one further undercut recess for carrying a bolt head or screw-threaded strip and opening in a direction opposite that of the recess of claim 7.

9. A console substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to and as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

10. An extrusion for a console as claimed in any preceding claim, the extrusion having a generally "L"- or "V"-shaped cross section providing external major surfaces at 90°, each major surface having an undercut recess therein, at least one further undercut recess located in each limb of the "V" or "L" and another undercut recess defined by the inner cavity of the "V" or "L" for supporting a bolt which will project away from the major surfaces and at 45° to each for securing the extrusion to other similar extrusions by a bracket.

11. An extrusion substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

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